

Moderate Business Gains Seen for Second Quarter

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By REYNOLDS KNIGHT
 Rather suddenly, business observers are tossing into the wastebasket the phrase "high-level stagnation" widely used to describe the state of the economy since mid-1962. With few exceptions, they are now saying the newly arrived second quarter will bring a moderate but healthy expansion of business.

Spring weather is one factor, spurring retail volume in apparel, home furnishings, and equipment for outdoor living. Latest figures document that consumer incomes continue high; spending for goods and services in the first quarter rose to \$370 billion.

Auto sales remain high, sustaining brisk demand for steel. And steel factories are additionally busy supplying other customers building up reserves in anticipation of a possible strike later this year.

CAMPUS HOMES—Colleges and preparatory schools across the country, faced with increasingly pressing student housing needs, are being offered a pay-as-you-go plan under which they can acquire additional dormitory space without using their own capital funds.

Under the plan, C.I.T. Educational Buildings Inc., a subsidiary of C.I.T. Financial Corporation, will arrange for construction of C.I.T.-owned dormitories, lease them to the colleges for up to 12 years, and then give title to the buildings to the institutions without further charge.

The essence of the plan, said L. Walter Lundell, president of both the parent company and the new subsidiary, "is that standard room rentals approximating those charged students occupying other rooms on the same campus should be sufficient to cover all rental payments under the

HOGAN

Saroyan Still Has The Stuff

Now and then I pick up, from my own esteemed Saroyan shelf, "The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze," "The Trouble with Tigers," or "Love, Here Is Your Hat." Reading in and about the early William Saroyan a generation later is like playing aged 78-rpm records — Gus Arnheim's "The Little Things in Life," with the young Bing Crosby soaring through the vocal.

This is pure nostalgia. Yet the excitement remains — whether it be the incredible melody in Crosby's voice of the early '30s, or Saroyan's equally incredible melody and exuberance in, say, "Inhale & Exhale," a grabbag or poetic prose that exploded originally in 1936.

Everyone grows older, including readers. The last few Saroyan titles — particularly "The Whale Voyard," "Mama, I Love You" and "Papa, You're Crazy" — have rarely stirred old guard Saroyan fans. A new novel, "Boys and Girls Together," stirred me not at all. I found it to be a depressing and labored little exercise. It focuses on a young married couple's domestic difficulties. There are children involved. The whole thing is drearily oversexed. And while it may be a more "mature" Saroyan than some of its impish predecessors, it also seems to be tense, if not frantic.

The sad principal characters and their grubby friends (or agents of escape) including an aging film star, seem a waste of Saroyan's talent. And the talent is always there, one is convinced, just under the surface of such unworthy performances.

I am reminded of James T. Farrell's poignant statement in rebutting his detractors: "They shouldn't write a man off until he's dead. But they have done that to me."

Nobody is writing off William Saroyan. But reading "Boys and Girls Together" is like listening to Crosby a generation later, in a lugubrious and terribly unsatisfactory version of "Ave Maria."

Boys and Girls Together. By William Saroyan. Brace & World; 153 pp.; \$3.95.

This age is reaching out towards the perfect Principle of things; is pushing towards perfection in art, invention, and manufacture. — Mary Baker Eddy.

lease, as well as provide income to the college for building service and maintenance costs.

Negotiations are under way with a number of colleges in various areas of the country interested in the Campus Homes program, he said. Two substantial building projects, each involving three-unit U-shaped dormitories to house from 120 to 140 students, are scheduled for Ricker College, Houlton, Me., and Salem College, Salem, W. Va.

LOTS A WATTS — A ma-

chine capable of fully testing the increasingly powerful electron tubes designed for uses such as satellite communication and missile-warning systems has been built by the Votator Division of Chematron Corporation, and installed at a New England plant of Machlett Laboratories Division of Raytheon Co.

This remarkable "Thermex" unit is believed to be the most powerful high-frequency tube tester in operation, says John E. Slaughter Jr., Votator president.

Electron tubes that deliver

hundreds of thousands of watts at high frequencies are becoming increasingly vital to the nation's communications, space and industrial efforts. They are used to transmit overseas broadcasts and satellite communications, heat experimental space vehicles to re-entry temperatures, and to power radar nets that search the skies for enemy ballistic missiles, for example.

"THIS NEW TESTER can deliver continuous power 1,200,000 watts, greater than the rated input of any high-

frequency tubes now manufactured," Slaughter notes. Advantages of the new machine include higher frequency, greater power and compact design. It is an amplifier-type unit that can test the most powerful modern tubes in a circuit very similar to that in which they will actually be used.

The new tester also makes it feasible now to build much more powerful, fully tested tubes for industrial uses, which outnumber the better known uses in communications, Slaughter points out.

THINGS TO COME — A Mississippi inventor has developed a "typewriter ribbon renewer" and claims the mystery fluid can make ordinary ribbons last a dozen times their normal useful-life span. . . . From Missouri comes an electric-powered combination can opener and knife sharpener: the latter element can sharpen any non-serrated blade to "factory" sharpness in only a few seconds. . . . Drivers who use seat belts now can avail themselves of a new device that warns when the belt has not been fully fastened. It's

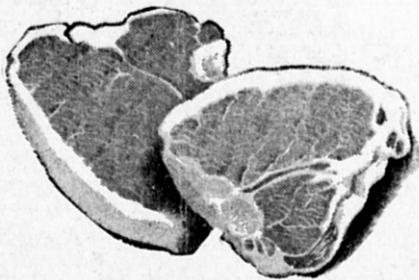
connected with the ignition system, which does not function until the belt is taut.

movies are now chosen—sometimes—because they'll have strong appeal for the young folk.

TARGET: TEENAGERS — The motion picture industry, which learned in the past decade to rely for profit on movies of the extravaganza class, has begun aiming much of its promotion at the teenage market. It's theorized that adults, too busy with daily chores even on weekends, will take in a movie only rarely. But one study shows that 45 per cent of teen-age girls go to a theater once a week, and another 23 per cent do so twice a month. Even the subjects for

BITS O' BUSINESS—A leading maker of women's undergarments (notably brassieres) is the first U.S. firm to advertise in a Soviet trade paper for retail personnel. . . . A slightly smaller strawberry crop this year may cause slightly higher prices in the weeks ahead. . . . A Kansas City firm, successful in selling blue jeans by mail order in Europe, now will start up a factory in Belgium to produce cowboy-type garments.

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